



Catawba County Library System

Computer Tip Sheet September 2006 Acronyms



Acronyms and abbreviations are dearly loved by the computer industry. Unfortunately it can leave many of us in the dark when these shortcuts are used to explain things. Below is a list of some of the most common and what they mean, so the next time your computer guru tries to confound you with some of these, you can relax, nod your head, and look informed.

DOS: Disk Operating System

CGI: Computer Generated Images—used by movie makers

DSL: Digital Subscriber Line

GIGO: Garbage In/Garbage Out

HTL: Human in The Loop

HTML: HyperText Markup Language

HTTP: HyperText Transfer Protocol

ISP: Internet Service Provider

IT: Information Technology

LAN: Local Area Network

MB: Megabyte (1,024 kilobytes)

MBR: Master Boot Record

MODEM: Modulator/Demodulator

MP3: MPEG version 3

RAM: Random Access Memory

ROM: Read Only Memory

TWAIN: Technology Without An Interesting Name (actually it is a kind of connection between an application and scanner software).

WWW: World Wide Web

WYSBYGI: What You See Before You Get It

WYSIWYG: What You See Is What You Get

.ZIP: a kind of file format (compressed—must expand to open file)



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